

AMAA news

Publication of the Armenian Missionary Association of America
NOV/DEC - Vol. XXXVII No. 6 (ISSN 1097-0924)



Joy to the World!

"Joy to the world. The Lord is come. Let earth receive her King."

Andrew Torigian



AMAA NEWS

is a publication of
the Armenian Missionary Association of America,
31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652.
Tel. (201) 265-2607; Fax (201) 265-6015
E-Mail: amaa@amaa.org
Website: www.amaa.org
The AMAA is a Tax Exempt, not for profit organization
under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3)

Andrew Torigian, Executive Director
Dikran Youmshakian, Administrative Director

OFFICERS

H. Steven Aharonian, M.D. President
John Cherkezian, Vice President
Peter Kougasian, Esq., Vice President
Harry Dulgarian, Recording Secretary
Gary Phillips, Recording Secretary
Eileen Chopourian Stephey, Recording Secretary
Aram R. Minnetian, Treasurer
David Hekemian, Assistant Treasurer

EDITORIAL BOARD

Andrew Torigian, Editor
Louisa Janbazian, Associate Editor, Layout & Design
Dikran Youmshakian, Advisor

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

In order to keep our mailing list up to date, please
send all corrections, along with the old address
to: AMAA NEWS, 31 W. Century Rd.,
Paramus, NJ 07652

E-mail: amaaneews@amaa.org

PRINTING

Printsolutions, Englewood, NJ (201) 567-9622

COVER PICTURE

AMAA Board Members and Pastors after the
85th Annual Worship Service

It is that time of year when we eagerly prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For those of us who can celebrate this wondrous event, it is a true blessing.

We believers know that He is the one who said: "For I was hungry, and you fed me; I was thirsty, and you gave me water; I was a stranger, and you invited me into your house; I was naked, and you clothed me; sick and in prison, and you visited me."

And when we hear the righteous ones ask, "Sir, when did we do all these things?" The King will tell them, "When you did it to these my brothers, you were doing it to me!"

With these thoughts in mind, let us go forward to all our fellow men and women and act with these precepts.

Qristos 6nau ;u \altn;zaul] ;xi4 m;xi M;6 Au; tis!

Krisdos dzenav yev haydnetsav: tsezee, mezee Medz Avedis.

(Christ is born and is revealed: Good tidings to you and to us)

The Inspirational Corner

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the song of the angel is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock
The work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among brothers,
to make music in the heart.

(Author unknown)

Andrew Torigian Named New Executive Director

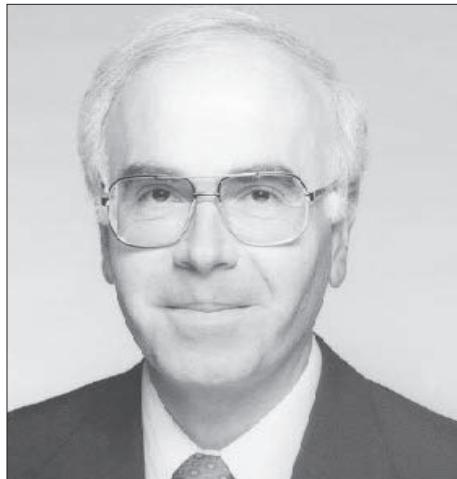
At the December, 2004 meeting of the AMAA Board of Directors, Andy Torigian was named as the new Executive Director of the Association. Prior to this, he had served as the President for seven years, as Vice President for four years, as Treasurer for two years and as Personnel Committee Chairman for 17 years. He has been a board member since 1982.

AMAA Elects Board Members and Officers

The Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) at their most recent meeting, on Saturday, December 11, 2004, elected Dr. Hrair S. Aharonian of Northridge, CA as the AMAA President for the coming year. Dr. Aharonian, who most recently served as the Association's Vice President, is a long time member and an ardent supporter of the AMAA. He, for many years, has served the Association in various capacities, such as Board member, Co-Chair of Armenia Committee and member of several important committees.

Other elected officers of the AMAA were Peter Kougasian, Esq. of Pelham Manor, NY and Mr. John Cherkezian of Englewood, NJ, Vice Presidents; Mr. Aram Robert Minnetian of Park Ridge, NJ, Treasurer; Mr. David Hekemian of New York, NY, Assistant Treasurer; Mrs. Eileen Chopourian Stephney of Havertown, PA, Mr Harry Dulgarian of Belmont, MA, and Gary Phillips, Esq. of Los Angeles, CA, Co-Recording Secretaries. Each year the AMAA carries out an election to replace one-third of its 27 elected Board members, whose three-year terms have expired.

On Saturday, October 16, 2004, the election results for the AMAA Board of Directors' Class of 2007 was announced during AMAA's 85th Annual Meeting held at the Association's Headquarters in Paramus, NJ. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Mr. Robert Hekemian, Sr., presided over this



Dr. Hrair S. Aharonian, AMAA President



Peter Kougasian, Esq., AMAA Vice President

year's election process. The Committee prepared a slate of 16 candidates to be voted upon by AMAA's constituency. Eight members were elected from that slate and a ninth member was appointed by the Board. The following nine members, also referred to as the "Class of 2007", have begun to serve their three-year terms: Dr. Hrair Aharonian of Northridge, CA, Dr. Rafi Balabanian of San Jose, CA, Mr. Bryan Bedrosian of Fresno, CA, Dr. Nazareth Darakjian of La Canada, CA, Mrs. Elaine Kasparian of Lexington, MA, Mr. Harold Nahigian of La Canada, CA, Mrs. Eileen Chopourian Stephney of Havertown, PA, Mr. Carlos Taraktzian of Cranston, RI and Dr. Joe Zeronian of Pasadena, CA..G



John Cherkezian, AMAA Vice President

Cont'd from the previous page

born pianist, Zela Margossian, who offered works by Bach, Scarlatti, Schubert, Liszt, Debussy, and Scriabin, before she ended the evening with an all-Armenian program with works by Gomidas, Khatchaturian, Babadjanian and Haratunian.

At Sunday's worship service, Rev. Vahan Tootikian, delivered a message in English and Rev. Hovhannes Karjian offered a message in Armenian. The newly

elected AMAA Board members and officers were installed during the worship service by Rev. Bernard Guekguezian, Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America. The Worship Service took a moment of silence in remembrance of those members and friends who ended their pilgrimage and joined the heavenly audience.

The Hospitality Committee, chaired by Lucienne Aynilian and Janet Avakian,

worked hard to prepare and serve meals each day, to plan and coordinate the Saturday evening banquet, and to plan the luncheon following Sunday's worship service. A host of volunteers shared their time and talents, serving as members of the Hospitality Committee and contributing to a most successful annual meeting.

Next year's meeting will be held in Fresno California, October 14, 15 and 16, 2005.G

AMAA Holds 85th Annual Meeting in Paramus, NJ

The 85th annual meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) was held on Saturday, October 16, 2004, at the AMAA's headquarters in Paramus, NJ. In attendance were over 90 people, representing Armenian Evangelical churches worldwide, AMAA mission committees and AMAA affiliated organizations along with AMAA Board members and friends. A full program was highlighted by a mission conference, Board of Directors meeting, Annual Meeting, Banquet, Piano Recital and Sunday Worship Service with installation of officers. There were representatives from Australia, France, Lebanon, Armenia and Canada, as well as the United States.

The mission conference, which was held on Friday, October 15 and attended by pastors and church representatives, featured Rev. Dr. Carnegie Calian, President of Pittsburgh Seminary. The theme was "The Ideal Mission of the Ideal Church."

The annual meeting on October 16 was attended by AMAA Board members, Armenian Evangelical ministers, church representatives, chapter delegates, and worldwide mission partners. Current reports were given with updates on AMAA mission fields. A measure of the scope of the AMAA activities can be gleaned from the fact that more than 50 reports were heard from various committees, boards, district committees, and chapters from the 22 countries in which AMAA has presence and service.

The meeting heard from the AMAA representative in Armenia, the Rev. René Léonian, that in a broad range of activities, involving both children and adults, the organization's efforts were increasing and expanding.

One of the high points of this year's meeting – as it is of every year's meeting – was the continuous growth and success of Haigazian University of Beirut, Lebanon, which will be marking its 50th anniversary next year.

During the Annual Meeting the names of the newly elected AMAA Board members were announced. For a term of three years of volunteer service (class of 2007) the following members were elected: H. Steven



AMAA President Mr. Andrew Torigian presiding the 85th Annual Meeting.



Installation of AMAA Board members.

Aharonian, M.D., Rafi Balabanian, D.D.S., Bryan Bedrosian, Nazareth Darakjian, M.D., Elaine Kasparian, Harold Nahigian, Eileen Chopourian Stephey, Ph.D., Carlos Taraktzian, Joe Zeronian, Ed.D. The election was done through ballots mailed earlier to active members.

The two days were not all work, however, as the AMAA treated itself to a banquet and a concert, after the final day's business. At the banquet, the organization presented Recognition Awards to now-re-

tired Mrs. Rosy Maranjian, for her 22 years of service to the AMAA, and to Mrs. Arpine Aynilian for the pioneering support that she and her late husband, Nerses had given the AMAA.

Peter Kougasian, Esq., AMAA Vice President, presided over the program, whose keynote speaker was AMAA Board member, Dr. Ara Apelian.

Following the Banquet and Presentation program, there was a concert by the Beirut-

Cont'd on the following page

Presentation of Plaque to Mrs. Arpine Aynilian at AMAA's 85th Annual Banquet

One of the highlights of the 85th Annual Banquet of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) was to present a plaque to Mrs. Arpine Aynilian and her late husband, Nerses, for their pioneering support of the work of the AMAA.

President Andy Torigian, upon making the presentation, reflected on the history of the two honorees recalling how their parents had both survived the Armenian Genocide and the

Aynilians (Nerses) and Meghrigians (Arpine) had settled respectively in Aleppo, Syria and in Beirut, Lebanon. Subsequently, when Nerses was a youngster, they moved to Beirut and coincidentally Arpine and her parents moved to Paris. When Nerses was a teenager, he left school to help his father in the business since the depression had slowed things down considerably. Arpine, in her pre-teen years with her family, transferred to the United States. Both had similar tragedies in their life when Nerses' younger brother died of typhoid fever in Beirut and Arpine's father died because of the deterioration of his health while he was in a Turkish prison. As time went on, things got better for both of them.

Arpine attended Columbia University and then the Juilliard School of Music. Nerses, in turn, having built up the business was now making frequent trips to the United States. On one of his visits to the United States, through mutual friends, the two were introduced and in 1948 they were married in New York City at Riverside Cathedral and returned to live in Beirut. After their first son, Vahram, was born, they moved to New York City to get a better life for their family. In 1956, they moved to Tenafly, New Jersey.

Arpine and Nerses were extremely active in the New York Evangelical Church. Nerses served as moderator and was on the Board of Trustees. Nerses was also active with the AMAA and served for many years on their Investment Committee and was a member of AMAA's Board of Directors. Arpine was Chairman of the New York Evangelical Church's musical programs and was involved in presenting concerts for the church.

Nerses and Arpine were pioneers in their support in building the first AMAA Medical Center next to the AMAA Headquarters in Yerevan. It is now staffed with a full-time doctor, a nurse, a dentist, a pharmacist and a psychologist.

But the greatest legacy they have given us thus far is that they have raised their four children with the call of serving others. Vahram



Mr. Andrew Torigian and Mrs. Arpine Aynilian.



Mr. Dikran Youmshakian & Mrs. Rosy Maranjian.

Rosy Maranjian Honored For Her Service To The AMAA

Child education and child care programs have been the major focus of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) as part of its various support projects.

The Child Education Sponsorship Program for needy students in the Middle East was established in the late 1950's and the Child Sponsorship Program in Armenia immediately after the devastating earthquake in 1988.

These programs have changed the lives of thousands of children. Some of these children have now grown up to become successful individuals, taking leadership roles in Armenian communities worldwide.

Mrs. Rosy Maranjian has played a major role and has become an integral part of AMAA, helping such programs become a success. For over twenty years as a member of the AMAA staff, Rosy has managed these programs, treating the children like the children of her own and the donors and sponsors as her friends and partners.

Rosy Maranjian joined the AMAA in 1980 as the person in charge of the child support programs. These programs became part of her life as she showed great affection to them.

Rosy was very respected in the office, not only with her work but with her affection and care towards her colleagues as well, and specially the younger ones. She gave them motherly care and became a role model of dedication and service to the AMAA.

Along with the child care programs, Rosy Maranjian also handled the scholarship applications of college students. Through AMAA's Scholarship Program, thousands of youth were able to have an opportunity to receive a higher education. Here also Rosy's involvement was more personal, as she cared for each student following with them through the application process.

Rosy was born in Alexandria, Egypt, into a devout evangelical family. After finishing school, she became a teacher at Haigazian College, a secondary school in Alexandria. While a teacher, she improved her English and shorthand-typing skills and was hired as a secretary by the Ford Motor Co. in Alexandria.

After her marriage to George Maranjian, she spent a number of years in Saudi Arabia, where her husband was employed, and raised two daughters. The family then returned to the USA and settled in NJ.

Cont'd on the following page

Cont'd on the following page

Pianist Zela Margossian Plays at AMAA's Annual Meeting Concert

By Ohannes Salibian*

On Saturday, October 16, 2004 I left Boston for Paramus, New Jersey, to attend Zela Margossian's piano concert, her first in the U.S. The concert was organized by the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA).

On the way, I was thinking about 1975, the year I decided to leave Lebanon with no intention of ever returning – the year the Lebanese Civil War flared. Among the catastrophic consequences of that mindless war was the negative mark it left on an entire generation that had received its higher education in the country itself as well as abroad. Armed with new ideas, that generation was eager to improve the feudal mind-set that dominated the country. Our energy and passion was soon to be squashed, and for almost a quarter of a century, Lebanon was to lose an important collective force.

Zela Margossian is the child of that bitter period. She is a graduate of Armenian Evangelical Schools and Haigazian University (both supported by AMAA). She is a young artist whose progress I have followed closely. On Saturday, I was convinced of Zela's immense will power and the wisdom of her decision to pursue her piano studies at the Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Armenia, where she has the opportunity to study with the best musicians and scholars. I was deeply satisfied by the unqualified care, which she had received at that great Armenian institution. Zela's performance was characterized by meticulous interpretation and deep musicality, qualities which her teacher in Yerevan, Vili Sarkissian, has inculcated in his young student, and under whose supervision the program for the evening was developed: Bach, Scarlatti, Schubert, Liszt, Debussy, and Scriabin in the first part, and Komitas, Khatchaturian, and Papajanian in the second part, and after loud



applause, Alexander Haroutunian's "The Dance of Sassun."

Zela satisfied completely the expectations of the American-Armenian community, and the enthusiastic audience expressed pride and satisfaction. Zela offered a refined yet strong interpretation of works from different schools and musical eras.

I believe that musical culture develops and endures through those individuals who disregard obstacles and persist despite all kinds of deprivations, who explore and find that which can fill their hungered spirits. I am convinced that Zela is such an unrelenting artist, who will attract the attention of interested organizations and individuals. I am sure that demanding and discriminating audiences will appreciate Zela's search for new musical paths because Zela is endowed with the ability to condense time and seek those standards that are the hallmark of an international artist. The phenomenon of a blossoming pianist is gratifying and promising indeed! The AMAA should be praised for offering Zela to display her talent to an American-Armenian Audience. G

*Dr. Ohannes Salibian, a musician/composer, is a graduate of Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Armenia.

Cont'd from previous page - Mrs. Aynilian honored.....

is a member of the Board of Directors of the AMAA. He is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Armenian Presbyterian Church (APC) in Paramus, and prior to that he was the Sunday School Superintendent for ten years. His wife, Lucienne, who helped during his term as Sunday School Superintendent, serves as Co-Chair of the AMAA Armenia Summer Camp and Christmas Committee, and she is also Co-Chair of the Public Affairs Committee. Alice, their second child and her husband, Gary Rassam, have been very active at APC. They have served on the APC Centennial Committee. Gary has served as Trustee of the church, and you will find them always helping out. The other daughter, Betty, is a member of the AMAA Orphan and Child Care Committee and her husband, John Cherkezian, is the past chairman of the APC Mission's Committee and currently serves on the AMAA Board of Directors. The youngest son, Nick is a member of the elders of APC and is Co-Clerk of the Session and also sings in the church choir. In addition, he is a member of the AMAA Investment Committee. His wife Elizabeth, who is a Sunday School teacher at APC, also serves on the AMAA Armenia Summer Camp and Christmas Committee. We are fortunate enough to have such a dedicated family serving our community. May God continue to bless them. G

Cont'd from previous page - Mrs. Maranjian honored.....

When Rosy's second daughter went away to college and her husband was away on business, Rev. Dr. Giragos Chopourian, the Executive Director of the AMAA at the time, approached Rosy and asked if she would consider working for the AMAA. Rosy, who had worked for an insurance company, Ford Motor Company and a bank as a secretary, agreed to work on a part-time basis, which later became full-time.

In May of 2004 Rosy Maranjian retired from her position at the AMAA to move to Rhode Island with her husband, George Maranjian to join their two daughters, Selena Maranjian and Emily Maranjian and their two grandchildren.

Rosy Maranjian was honored during AMAA's 85th Annual Meeting Banquet, which was held on Saturday, October 16, 2004 at the Armenian Presbyterian Church. AMAA's Administrative Director, Dikran Youmshakian, a long-time colleague of Rosy presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation.

The AMAA is thankful to God for dedicated servants like Rosy who consider it an honor to labor for the Lord. G

AEWC Holds Biennial Meeting in Paramus, New Jersey

Vahan Tootikian

The Biennial meeting of the Armenian Evangelical World Council (AEWC) was held on October 14, 2004, in Paramus, New Jersey. In attendance were the following representatives of the seven constituent Church Unions and organizations: Rev. Megerdich Karagoezian of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East; Rev. Gilbert Léonian and Rev. Joel Mikaelian of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France; Rev. Bernard Guekguezian and Rev. Joseph Matossian of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America; Rev. René Léonian of the Evangelical Union of Armenia and Eurasia; Mr. Andrew Torigian and Badveli Dikran Youmshakian of the Armenian Missionary Association of America; Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein of Stephen Philibosian Foundation; Rev. Vahan H. Tootikian, the Executive Director of AEWC.

The representatives and the Executive Committee members of AEWC presented their annual reports as well as brought up, discussed several items for deliberation and made specific resolutions. Under Old Business, matters ranging from the status of the Armenian Evangelical Baptist Union to preparation of uniform Christian Education curriculum, from recruitment of pastoral candidates to the 2004 pilgrimage to Armenia were reviewed, evaluated and several recommendations were made.

Under new business, more than a dozen of issues were acted upon, and the following resolutions were made:

1. To review the present status of, and make future plans for, the Armenian Evangelical archives. Although considerable work was done in the past year in terms of sorting and categorizing the existing items, much needs to be done. It was resolved that some selected books need to be sent to the Evangelical Academy of Armenia.

2. Plans for the 90th Anniversary Observances of the Armenian Genocide were discussed. It was resolved that worldwide Armenian Evangelical observances be held in April of 2005. It was further resolved that this milestone be commemorated not only by individual or regional church commun-



The Armenian Evangelical World Council.

ties but also collectively and cooperatively with other Armenian denominations. The goals of these observances should be not only to acquaint the new generation of Armenians and non-Armenians about the genocide, but also to bring to the attention of world bodies, such as the United Nations and United European parliament the civil rights violations of Turkey, the Turkish denial of the genocide, and Turkey's continued perpetration of "the white genocide." It was further resolved that the Council write to the European Union affirming the fact that in order for Turkey to qualify entry into the European Union it must uphold international values of human rights, cease to occupy Cyprus, lift its blockade of Armenia, grant equal rights to its minority citizens and acknowledge the Armenian genocide.

3. To accept Treasurer Albert Momjian's financial report with thanks.

4. To plan and organize a worldwide Armenian Evangelical rally to be held in Yérevan, Armenia, in 2006, on the 160th anniversary of the founding of the Armenian Evangelical Church.

5. To commission the Rev. Vahan H. Tootikian to write a book on the "Pioneer Armenian Evangelical Clergymen in America from 1880-1950.

6. To celebrate "The Armenian Evangelical Day" in 2005 on one of the four Sundays in the month of June.

7. To recommend to the five constituent Unions of AEWC and the Armenian Mis-

sionary Association to add to their Bylaws a clause to include the name of AEWC's Executive Director as Ex-Officio member.

8. To organize an all-Armenian Evangelical missions (evangelistic) conference in Armenia in the summer of 2005.

9. To support the Evangelist Berj Attarian of Germany in his new mission, and ask the AMAA to financially assist this pioneering mission.

10. To recommend to the leadership of the Evangelical Church of Armenia to continue its dialogue and cooperation with the Armenian Baptism Churches, and report to the Executive Committee in the Oct. 2005 meeting.

11. To hold the meeting of AEWC's Executive Committee on October 14, 2005, in Fresno, California.

12. To express the Council's gratitude to its Executive Director for his dedicated services on behalf of the AEWC.

13. To extend the Council's appreciation to the AMAA for playing host for the Biennial meeting of the AEWC.

14. Elections for 2005-2007 were held; the newly-elected Executive Committee consists of the following: Rev. Joel Mikaelian – President; Rev. Bernard Guekguezian – Vice President; Rev. Megerdich Karaguezian – Secretary; Mr. Albert Momjian – Treasurer; and Rev. Vahan H. Tootikian – Executive Director. The advisors are: Rev. Gilbert Léonian, Rev. Joseph Matossian, Rev. Haroutune Selimian, Rev. René Léonian, Badveli Dikran Youmoushakian, Mr. Andrew Torigian and Mrs. Joyce Stein.G

NKR President Arkady Ghoukasian Visits AMAA Headquarters

As part of his tour in the United States, Mr. Arkady Ghoukasian, President of the Nagorno Karabagh Republic (NKR) visited the headquarters of the Armenian Missionary Association of America. The president was accompanied by Mr. Vartan Parseghian, the NKR representative in Washington D.C. and Ms. Naira Melkoumian, Executive Director of the Armenia Fund in Armenia. Ms. Melkoumian was the former NKR Foreign Minister.

Though the main objective of NKR President's visit was to support the Telethon of November 21 and to raise support for the North-South Highway of Karabagh, this was a good opportunity for him personally to meet with heads of organizations and acknowledge and create more awareness for urgent needs in his young but progressing republic.

At AMAA Headquarters, Mr. Ghoukasian met with AMAA President, Mr. Andy Torigian, Administrative Director, Dikran Youmshakshian and the staff.

Mr. Ghoukasian expressed his appreciation for the humanitarian support provided to the Republic through the AMAA. Specifically he appreciated the support provided to children of needy families to Kindergartens and Camps.

The Armenian Missionary Association of



(l to r) Mr. Dikran Youmshakian, Ms. Naira Melkoumian, President Arkady Ghoukasian, Mr. Andrew Torigian and Mr. Vartan Parseghian.

America was both honored and encouraged with this visit and assured the President that it will do its utmost to continue with its mission and service ministry in our homeland and Karabagh.G

AMAA Representatives Attend UN General Assembly

"Armenia is ready to compromise and collaborate with neighbors who are ready to join us in making history, not re-writing it...." stated Mr. Vartan Oskanian, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, during his address to the United Nations 59th General Assembly in New York, on Wednesday, September 29, 2004. Three representatives from AMAA - Robert Hekemian, Jr., Peter Kougasian, Esq. and Dikran Youmshakian joined a group of invitees to participate in the Assembly. The invitation was extended by Mr. Armen Martirosyan, Armenia's UN Ambassador. Mr. Oskanian's speech was strong and very effective. After his address, Mr. Oskanian met with the Armenian guests and shared with them his views on the current issues in Armenia and specially those dealing with the Karabagh conflict. In his remarks, Mr. Oskanian noted the importance of the Armenian Diaspora and expressed appreciation for the support provided to the homeland.G



AMAA Representatives and other guests pictured with Mr. Vartan Oskanian, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia (3rd from left) and US & UN Armenian Ambassadors.

Youth Summer Activities in Syria

During the year 2004, the youth work among the youth of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in Aleppo was done through different types of activities. The joint worship services were one of these activities. They were organized to celebrate Christmas, Easter and some of the Armenian national commemorative dates such as "Vartanantz", "April 24-Armenian Memorial Day" and "Tarkmantchatz"- Armenian Cultural Day. The Summer Camps were one of the vital activities to strengthen the spiritual and the national identities of the youth. During the summer, three camps were organized to reach out to the children, the junior high and the youth of the churches. The Guest speakers for the camps were Mrs. Lana Ekmekjian (Children) Mrs. Maral Deirmenjian (Junior High) and Rev. Nerses Balabanian (Youth). Special care was given to the activities of the youth group of Kessab, its regions and Latakia. Pastor Vatche Ekmekjian paid monthly visits to Latakia, where the youth, headed by Rev. Hagop Sarkissian gather for worship service and Bible studies. The work among the joint Junior High group was done in full scale. The activities of the group aimed to bring the Gospel into the lives of the teenagers and encourage them to celebrate their youth within the life of the wider church. Special attention was given for individual needs and indi-



Children playing during DVBS.

vidual reach out. We believe that as humans we are called to bring in our limited efforts in ministry and make space to Gods incredible potential and grace to strengthen the youth and keep them firm and steady in their spiritual lives.

The Armenian Missionary Association of America is a major supporter of all Youth Summer Activities in Syria. G

Dirk Jan Groot, Director of Dorcas Aid Visits the AMAA

Expressing his "extreme satisfaction that the association with the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has gone so well," Dorcas Aid Director, Dirk Jan Groot was particularly complimentary about "all the open accountability that takes place where all transactions are transparent to all concerned."

The statement was made following a visit to the AMAA headquarters, where the Dorcas director was accompanied by his associate, Rev. Paul Visky, from Hungary. At the headquarters, they met with AMAA's President Andy Torigian and administrative director, Dikran Youmshakian.

The purpose of the visit was to review the various programs that jointly take place in Armenia.

Located in Holland, Dorcas Aid sponsors 250 orphan child-care families. It supports the Talin Kindergarten, and annually it ships ten containers of parcels, backpacks and clothing. Dorcas also prints and distributes children's literature in Armenia.

In addition, Dorcas encourages development projects, such as potato farming, where they teach the latest techniques and methods to enable the farmer to be more productive and also to help create some jobs for the local people.

Dorcas aid and the AMAA have been involved in this joint mission project for the last ten years.



(l to r) Mr. Dikran Youmshakian, Dirk Jan Groot, Director of Dorcas Aid, Mr. Andrew Torigian and Rev. Paul Visky.

Following the meeting, Andy Torigian said, "We look forward to continuing this wonderful relationship that benefits our homeland and its people. G

Kathy Dadukian's Gifts Will Bring Joy to Children In Armenia

Children in Armenia would hardly notice Christmas come and go if it were not for the efforts of many caring individuals in North America. Kathy Dadukian is one of the many sponsors who take joy in buying gifts and packaging them in beautiful Christmas wrap for shipment to Armenia. This year Mrs. Dadukian prepared 32 such packages. She smiled while she wrote the ages of the children on each package. She knew that children in Armenia would smile too. That is what Christmas is all about. Christ came to share God's love with us and we have to share that joy with others.

Every year, thanks to the AMAA Summer Camp/Christmas Committee and to supporters like Kathy, the AMAA organizes Christmas parties in different locations in Armenia and distributes "Christmas Joy Packages" to orphans and needy children. You can do the same and participate in this program. You will then feel the real joy of this Holy Season. G



Children's Summer Camp in Bulgaria

The 9th Annual Children's Summer Camp of the Armenian Evangelical Churches of Bulgaria took place from August 9-21, 2004 at the *Yarevetz* Summer Resort. 65 children from Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna and Russe participated in this year's camp. The Chief Director of the Camp was Brother Sarkis Hovhannessian assisted by Brother Yari Kouyoumdjian, Sister Elizabeth Khacikian and Vahan Keheyian from Sofia, Sister Mannig Kouyoumdjian, Brother Hrant Keshishian and Mannik Khachikian from Plovdiv, Brother Nerses Gedigian from Russe, and Brother Kalousd Demirdjian and Sister Anahid Ouzounian from Varna. Dr. H. Pachadjian was the camp doctor.

As in the past, the children were divided into three groups - 6-10 years old, 11-14 years old and 15-16 years old.

Each day the children followed a special program according to

their age group - Worship service, Bible Study, arts & crafts, singing, social events, outdoor physical exercises and sport activities. The children took great delight in the excursions to the nearby historical sites and other scenic locations of the area.

The last day of the camp, the children presented a special program of songs, recitations and skits as well as an exhibition of their art work. Special symbolic achievement awards were given to those who were most active and best behaved during the camp.

The camp was a blessing and time of special enjoyment to all children, many of whom were from immigrant families.

As in the past, this year's children's summer camp in Bulgaria was made possible by the AMAA's financial and moral support. G



BOOKS AND MUSIC AVAILABLE

BOOKS

ARMENIAN CHRISTIANITY, by Aharon Sapsezian, The Faith of a Nation.143 pp., pb, No. 252 \$10.00

ARMENIAN CHURCH ARCHITECTURE, by Lawrence K. Cone, Armenian church architecture as it is exemplified in stone monuments built throughout the ages, 159 pp., hc. No. 50b \$20.00

ARMENIAN HISTORY TIMELINE, by Hagop & Marilyn Arshagouni, 52 pp., hc, No. 289 \$15.00

ARMENIAN NEEDLELACE AND EMBROIDERY, by Alice Odian Kasparian, A photographic collection of more than 100 priceless specimens (a third in color), plus step-by-step instructions for making two dozen easy needlelace patterns and diagrams for sophisticated Marash embroidery, 127 pp, hc. No. 120 \$15.00

THE BENEFITS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH TO THE ARMENIAN NATION (in English & Armenian), by Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, 190 pp, hc, No. 295 \$20.00

THE BURNING TIGRIS, by Peter Balakian, 475 pp, hc, No. 306 \$26.95

BLESSINGS IN BITTER CUPS, by Rev. Giragos H. Chopourian, Ph.D., Tragic, yet triumphant story of a small clan of successful working class Armenians, living in Turkey, just prior to the outbreak of World War I, 250 pp, hc. No. 305 \$20.00

CLAWS OF THE CRAB: GEORGIA AND ARMENIA IN CRISIS, by Stephen Brook, 354 pp., hc. No. 237 \$25.00

CONVERSATIONS WITH CONTEMPORARY ARMENIAN ARTISTS, by Jackie Abramian, 190 pp., pb, No. 258 \$7.00

FAIRY TALES AND STORIES OF THE ARMENIAN CHRISTIAN HISTORY, (in Armenian), by Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, 320 pp, hc, No. 302 \$30.00

IN OTHER WORDS, by Rev. Peter B. Doghramji, Ph.D., Selected Sermons and Meditations, 391 pp, hc, No. 310 \$20.00

THE HERITAGE OF ARMENIAN LITERATURE, VOLUME I, FROM THE ORAL TRADITION TO THE GOLDEN AGE, 388 pp., hc. No. 288 \$35.00

REV. DR. MOVSES B. JANBAZIAN - MAN OF VISION WITH A MISSION, Depicts the life and excerpts from the works of Rev. Janbazian, the past Executive Director of the AMAA. 278 pp., hc. No.304 - Complimentary a donation may be sent.

VIEWS ON GOOD NEWS, 365 Inspiring Daily Devotions for Christian Living, by Asien Surmeian, pb., No. 309 \$20.00

THE INDISPENSABLE HERITAGE by Rev. Barkev N. Darakjian - AN" 0>ARIN: LI VA%ANGOUJ I UNE3 F; [inak3 W; r1 Parg; u N1 Taragy; an4 Dasa. 7souj iunn; r Fa] Au; taranakan <arvman masin ;u Astoua6abanakan4 ' i li sobalakan4 ;k; [; zakan ou wardap; takan \7doua6n; r4 EEl h=4 j [j akaxm4 j iu EED4 gin \$15.00

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

ALBUM OF PAINTINGS, Contemporary Armenian Art, by Rafael Atoyan, 147 pp, hc, No. 283 \$50.00

L'AUTOMNE D'OR, by Patric Mesna, (Photo album of the people, country & biblical sides of Armenia), 160 pp, pb., No. 254 .. \$10.00

"PAREE YEGAK" - BARI : KAQ, (Welcome) - Hand crafted trivets of solid wood, No. 26 a \$5.00

HEAVENLY DELIGHTFUL COOKBOOK, by Mary Atikian, 247 pp, pb (size 8.5 by 11) , No. 307 \$25.00

HOKEVOR YERKER - FOG: UOR : RG: R (Armenian Hymnal), No. 002c \$15.00

ARMENIAN BIBLES

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT (hc - extra large) No. 13k, \$15.00

THE 1700TH ANNIVERSARY ARMENIAN REFERENCE BIBLE (hc green - extra large) No. 13n, \$20.00

ARMENIAN NEW TESTAMENT ON TAPES (The Four Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) No. 195, \$20.00

SERPAZAN BADMUTIUN, (Children's Bible) No. 155b \$10.00

NEW ARARAT EASTERN ARMENIAN NEW TESTAMENT (Soft-Cover, No. 13l \$10.00



CDs & TAPES

ALL TIME ARMENIAN FAVORITES, 3 CDs - performed by KOHAR Symphony Orchestra & Choir of Gyumri, Armenia and recorded live in concert - with 112 page booklet, including song lyrics: both in Armenian and transliterated, No 311 \$35.00

A VIOLA RECITAL - Brahms, Schubert, Gomidas, Bagdasarian, Milhaud, Reger - by Gor Hovhannisyian, Viola and Gary Kirkpatrick, Piano. Recorded live, No. 301 \$15.00

AMAA'S "YOUNG VIRTUOSOS" OF ARMENIA - North American Concert Tour 2000 (CD), Musical Ensemble of 6 talented children - ages 9-14 (violins, cello, flute & Piano) - Armenian and international classical music, No. 293 \$10.00

GARODK - Stepan Sarafian (Violin) and Armen Aharonian (Piano), (CD), No. 299 \$15.00

NAYINK HISOUSI #1 & 2, AND HAYREPAGHTS by Rev. Barkev Apartian - Nalnq | Isousi - M; n; rgn; r3 W; r1 Parg; u Abard; an - E ja\ln; rixn; r4 fate \$E\1E\1E - ;r; qe mi asin \$E\1E\1E - No. 211 (\$10 each if sold separately) Set of 3 tapes \$25.00

NOR YERK #4 & #6 (in Armenian - CD), NOR : RG Jiu 1 ;u j iu \1 - No. 208f & 208i Each \$15.00

NOR YERK #1-6 (in Armenian - Tape), NOR : RG Jiu \1-6 (ja\ln; rix)4 Nos. 208b, 208c, 208g, 208 e, 208h, 208i. each \$8.00

"SERPAZAN YERKER" Sacred Music Chorale, (tape in Armenian), conducted by Dr. John Merjanian, Srbaxan : rg; r - >mbawar3 T7qj 1 Yan M; ryan; an (ja\ln; rix) No. 193 \$10.00

BOOK ORDER FORM

Please forward Book(s) {List by catalogue No.(s)} _____
for a total of \$ _____

plus \$ _____ for postage and handling. In the U.S. add US\$4.00 for first copy and US\$2.00 for each additional book. In Canada add US\$6.00 for first copy and add US\$3.00 for each additional book (order books by catalogue numbers).

Name _____

Address _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

(Make checks payable to AMAA - Canada: Payable in U.S. dollars - Prices subject to change)

Mi # Wa. naq111

Ti gran : oum, aq; an

Minc ke f; t; uinq a57r; a\ k; anqi dhpq; roun ; u manauand ; rb ke ls; nq4 j h i 2nc ke patafi a,, arfi cors ko[me4 afow ; u j o[ow ke l; zoui nq! Pat; raxm4 afab; kcouj i un4 anapafowouj i un4 arka64 tnt; sakan tagnapn; r4 k; anqi s[ouj i un4 krak4 'oj ori k4 =rf; [; [4 entan; kan ; u a50[=apafakan farz; r4 als bolore orqa6n 6anr ke yn; n m; x nman tkar mard arara6n; rou wra! : u m; nq krrnanq ,at di urau g; ri da5nal m; r wa. ; roun! Astou60\ fr; , take saka\ln k*esh4 9Mi # wa. naq011!

|i sousi 6nnd; an f; t kapoua6 dhpq; rou enj azqi n4 Astou60\ 9Mi # wa. naq0 patouhre gong ke ls; nq ; r; q angam Matj hosi ; u {oukasi au; tarann; roun mh=!

A5a=i ne ke gtn; nq Matj hos Au; tarani a5a=i n gl. oun ÈÈ-rd famarin mh=! 9|owsh' 4 Daui j i ordi3 mi # wa. nar qowd a5n; I Mari ame1104 k*esh Thro= fr; , take |owsh' i4 or tagnapa6 hr entan; kan dvouarouj i unn; row! An takauin Mari ame orphs kin a5a6 chr ; u saka\ln k*manar4 j h Mari am ordi me pi ti 6nanhr! Als incph2s krnar endoun; li ellal |owsh' i nman paefpano[akan mardou me famar!

: rkrorde ke kardanq {oukas Au; tarani a5a=i n gl. oun ÈÈrd famarin mh= our fr; , take k*esh Mari am1 9Mi # wa. nar4 Mari am4 orowf; t; u ,norfq gtar Astou60\ qow0! Mari am sarsa' a6 hr4 j h i 2nc pi ti ellal i r wi yake enk; rouj ; an mh=! An takauin amousnaza6 chr4 ; u saka\ln gi thr4 j h \[i hr! Manauand an ke wa. nar i r n. ana6hn3 |owsh' hn4 j h i 2nc pi ti ellal anor andradar]e!

: u w; r=aphs4 ; rrord angam ellalow4 als patouhre kou ga\ fowi un; roun1 9Mi # wa. naq4 orowf; t; u afa[; s m; 6 oura. ouj ; an au; t i s kou tam] ; xi4 or ambo[= vo[owourdin pi ti ella\0 ({oukas È1 ÈÈ)! Fowi un; re da, t; roun wra\ ellalow lour k*oun; na\ln ar7r; a\ anzoudar]; rhn ; u manauand anong b; rnh b; ran ke tara6hi n lour; re i r; nz ,r=aka\qin ; u 9ambo[= vo[owourdin0! Fowi un; re i r; nq al ke tagnaphi n a\l 7r; rou dhpq; rhn ; u mt afog hi n na; u Frhastani kazouj ; amb!

* * *

Askh ÈÈÈÈ tarin; r a5a=4 ; j h cka\ln fa[ordakzouj ; an mi =ozn; r4 a\l s7r orqa6n di urin h fa[ordakzi l a,, arfi or; uh anki une gtnou[an]; rou f; t ; u mhk rophi mh= t; [; ak paf; l xi r; nq ar7r; a\ anzoudar]; rhn!

: j h fi n vamanak lour; r ke tara6ouhi n fowi un; rou

mi =ozow ; u kam patoui raken; rou ou moun; t i kn; rou mi =ozow4 a\l s7r f; 5a. 7se4 f; 5a t; si le ; u famazanze (inj ernhj) o\qan i rarer m7t ke b; r; n mardi k a,, arfi tarb; r ,r=ann; rhn!

Fa[ordakzouj ; an als bolor mi =ozn; row4 dvba. tabar bambasanq; re4 gh, lour; re ; u no\lni sk spa5nali qn; rn al ,at arag ke tara6oui n ; u k'anfangstazn; n ou ke . 5ow; n m; r mi tq; re! M; nq ke wa. nanq4 ke tagnapi nq ou ke mt afogouin qn!

Zaualin a\ln h4 or m; nq bauarar ca' ow c; nq 7gtagor6; r als bolor mi =ozn; re3 fa[ord; lou bari loure a,, arfin! Astoua6 i r bolor mi =ozn; row a\l loure m; xi touau4 oc mi a\ln margarhn; rou ; u fr; , takn; rou mi =ozow4 a\l manauand i r Mi a6i n 0rdi i n3 |i sous Qri stosi mi =ozow! Als paragan orqa6n i mastaliz h m; xi famar4 j h m; nq o\c mi a\ln fa[ordakzakan mi =ozn; row4 a\l na; u m; r k; anq; row tara6; lou ; nq bari loure a,, arfin! Bauarar chr fr; , takn; roun b; rnow ls; li dar]n; I Astou60\ patgame vo[owourdin! Anfrav; , t hr4 or |i sous 6nhr msourin mh=4 . onarf k; anq me aprhr a,, arfi wra\ 6a5a\hr ; u sorw; znhb ouri ,n; roun ; u w; r=aphs i r k; anq; tar ouri ,n; rou famar! M; xmh a\l k\aknkaloui no\ne en; !!

A\l s7r qic c; n entan; kan4 qa[aqakan ; u bnouj ; nakan tagnapn; re! : u m; nq ; rb; mn wa. ow ; u ; rb; mn bambasanqow m7t; nalou ' o. arhn4 phtq h ls; li dar]n; nq Thro= patouhre4 es; low 9Mi # wa. naq4 orowf; t; u afa ; s m; 6 oura. ouj ; an au; t i s kou tam0 ({oukas È1 ÈÈ)! |i sous als i r; rkrauor a5aq; louj ; an enj azqi n4 \o\ls ; u qa=ouj i un touau manauand tkarn; roun xrkoua6n; roun4 ant; soua6n; roun4 anthr ; u an7j i ; [o[n; roun! " o. anak anonzmh ; r; s dar]n; lou4 |i sous dpau anonz k; anq; roun ; u w; rzouz xi r; nq4 maqr; z4 bv, k; z4 k; rakr; z ; u kar; kzouj ; amb \o\ls touau apaga\i famar!

Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj i une4 f; t; u; low |i sousi 7rinakin4 i r gor6ow ou a,, at anqow kar; k- zouj ; an]; 5q k*; rkarh ta5ap; a\ln; roun! : u saka\ln phtq ouni na; u]; r masnakzouj ; an!

Thro= b; ra6 Bari Loure ambo[= vo[owourdin famar h! : u m; nq partakanouj i un ouni nq xaln ' o. anz; lou ouri ,n; roun! Ard4 als . orfourdow h4 or angam me ; us ke bazakanc; nq- 9Mi # Wa. naq04 qanxi Qri stos 6nau ; u la\tn; zau111! G



OBITUARIES

LITIA >ACIK: AN-GOULOUMY: AN

Litia Gouloumy; an 6na6 hr Falastani anka. ouj ; an tarin³ ÉNÉD-i n! An mi-n; k xaukn hr Mara, -zi Mkrtic ; u Xaroufi Gouloumy; ann; rou! An ounhr ; r; z ; [ba]r me3 L; uone ; u krt; r qo]r me3 Axatoufin!



Astou6o] ,norfqow go]at; ua6 hin t; [afanouj ; an4 ta5apanqi ; u xrkanqi! "oqr tariqhn korsnouza6 hr ir fa]re3 Damaskosi mh=4 ; u orb; uari ma]re ir ; r; q orboukn; row4 ga[j akani soupe] ; 5in 'o. adroua6 hr Ph]rouj 4 mi analou fon fastatoua6 ir faraxatn; roun! Litia i ma]re3 or ca' axanz na. an]a. ndir hr Fal Au; taranakan : k; [; zi in ; u anor skxbounq; roun] ,outow andamakza6 h Nor Mara, i Fal Au; taranakan : k; [; zi in! Ald wa]re ; [a6 h ir; nz ambo[= m. ij a]rouj ; an ; u norogouj ; an k; drone! M7r =anqow ; u xofab; rouj ; amb4 Litia auarta6 h ir ; rkrordakan ousoume Ph]rouj i Fal Au; taranakan Warvaranhn ; u anmi=aphs sksa6 h pa, t7hawar; l Nor Mara, i Fal Au; taranakan Warvaranhn mh=! A\nt; [6an7-jaza6 h ir apaga] k; anqi en-k; ro3 Samouhl >aci k; ani! Anonq kaxma6 ; n ; r=ani k entan; kan bo]n me É1 No] ; mb; r ÉNÉD-i n4 Ph]rouj i mh=! Astoua6 7rfna6 h xi r; nq4 parg; u; low cors si rasoun xaukn; r3 Si Iwan (&fannhs; an) ; u Mf; re4 oronq m; 6za6 ; u das-tiarakoua6 ; n axga]in ; u fog; uor ,ounco!

Astou6o] na. a. namouj ; amb ; u ; rkar mtmtough ; t q3 ÉNÉD-i n4 w; r=nakan7rhn Li tia ; u ir amou-sine ke fastatouin Monj rhal4 Ganata4 ir; nz xaukn; roun m7t ellalou npatakau! ÉÉÉÉ |ounouarin ; rb ke korsnzh ir ko[akize4

Li tia i a5o[=akan wi yake au; li ke watj aranal ; u vamanak me ; t q bolorowin anko[ini ke datapartoui!

Li tia latouk an]nauorouj ; an thr mhke ; [a6 hr4 ca' axanz . stapafan= ; u kargapaf4 a.. atashr b6a. ndir4 nrbya,ak ; u wa]l; lou=! : rkar tarin; r ir a5tni ; u ; k; [; zakan 6a5a]louj i unn; rn ou partakanouj i unn; re si row ; u fayo]qow katara6 hr! An ; rav, tashr hr4 fog; uor ; rg; re mi , t ir , rj n; roun wra]!

Li tia i Thr nn=; z Fi ng, abj i4 ÉD No] ; mb; r ÉNÉD-i n! |ou[arkauorouj ; an pa, tamounqe t; [i oun; -zau <abaj ÉE No] ; mb; ri n4 Monj -rhal4 Fal Au; taranakan Ma]r : k; [; zi in mh=!

9: ran; li ; n a]n m; 5; ln; re3 oronq Thro=mow ke nn=; n01 9A\o4 K*esh Fogin4 or ir; nz a.. atouj ; nh fangcin ou ir; nz gor6; re ir; nz ; t; uhn k*; rj an0! (|a]t1 É1 ÉE)

PARG: U MESERL: AN

Parg; u Meserl- ; ani mafe pataf; zau É No] ; mb; r ÉNÉD-i n4 ir bnakarnin mh=4 ,ncarouj ; an tagnapi me f; t; uanqow |ou[arkauorouj ; an pa, tamounqe t; [i oun; zau É No] ; mb; ri n4 Nor Mara, i Fal Au; taranakan : k; [; zi in mh=! Pa, tamounqin ir; nz bavine b; ri n W; rapatou; -lin; r Mkrtic Garakh7x; an4 N, an Pagal; an4 N; rshs Palapan; an ; u |owfannhs Sway; an!

Parg; u Meserl; an 6na6 h ÉNÉD-i n4 Ph]rouj 4 |akob ; u Fal koufi Meserl; ann; rou larkin tak! Oun; za6 h ; r; q qo]r; r ; u mhk ; [ba]r!

An si r; low ; k; [; zi in m; 6za6 h Nor Mara, i Fal Au; taranakan : k; [; zi in mh=; u ir ousoume sta-zaza6 t; [uo]n Fal Au; taranakan

<aml; an Jaj i k; an : rkrordakan Warvaranhn mh=4 ellalow warvaranhn a5a=i n ,r=anauart-n; rhn mhke! <r=anauartouj ; nhn ; t q n; toua6 h k; anqi asparhx! : ritasardouj ; an andam ; [a6 ; u fauatarm7rhn 6a5a]a6 h Nor Mara, i : k; [; zi i Qri stosnhakan +ani z Enk; rakzouj ; an mh=! : k; [; zi i fauatarim xauak ; u Fa[ordakan Andam4 an tarin; r ,arounak 6a5a]a6 h na; u <aml; an Jaj i k; an Warvaranhn n; rs orphs dprozi Fogabar]ouj ; an andam ; u : k; [; zi hn n; rs3 orphs Fogabar]ouj ; an ; u >namakal Marmini andam!

ÉNÉD-i n3 Parg; u Meserl; an amous-naza6 h Anvhl Sway; ani f; t4 Nor Mara, i Fal Au; taranakan : k; [; zi in mh=! Astoua6 7rfna6 h a]s entani qe ; rkou xauakn; row3 Salbi ; u Andrani k! Anonq ir; nz xauakn; re m; 6zouza6 ; n Astou6o] ,norfqin ; u yamboun mh=!

Parg; u Meserl; an apr; zau ir si ra6 "rkci n3 |i sous Qri stosi fauataqmow fam; stouj ; amb4 fam-b; rouj ; amb ; u mi , t vptadhm di magrau; z dvouarouj i unn; re!



^nound

Gi , ; rn i=au m; [mik lour4 Mouj h ; rkirn ou t. our1 |ankar6 ast[me wa5 , o[; row |a]tnou; za4 a.. arfin3 bari lour!

Msourn pxtik4 a[qatik4 Kar6;s dar]au arqounik1 A\nt; [6nau . onarf Arqan Orphsxi mi , t mard ella] ; r=ani k!

Warin mom; r lousauor4 |i sous mangkan dimauor1 >a[a[ouj iun4 bari q ou shr4 War]qn h ardard sirt; roun3 =in=4 a[ouor!

Gi , ; rn i=au m; [mik lour4 Mouj h ; rkirn ou t. our1 |ankar6 ast[me wa5 , o[; row |a]tnou; za4 a.. arfin3 bari lour!

Warouvan Wrd1 F; rk; l; an

OBITUARIES

REV. DR. HERALD A. G. HASSESSIAN

—By Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian

A veteran Armenian Evangelical Minister, prolific writer and educator, the Rev. Dr. Herald Avedis G. Hassessian, went home to his Heavenly Father, on Nov. 29, 2004.



The Rev. Dr. Herald Avedis Hassessian, son of the late Rev. and Mrs. Garabed A. Hassessian and grandson of Der Matheos *kahana* of the Armenian Apostolic Church, was born in Cilicia, Turkey, in 1913. He received his elementary and high school education at Armenian Evangelical schools in Beirut, Lebanon. He attended College Evangélique and graduated in 1935. From 1935 to 1941, he served as Dean of the Swiss Institute of Armenian Blind and Deaf. During World War II, he was a translator and clerk in the British and French armies.

In 1941, Avedis married Siranoush Margos-ian, a registered nurse at the American University of Beirut. They led a very happy life for 61 years, until the Lord called Yérétkin Siran home on March 15, 2002. God blessed this couple with two sons – Garabed and Hrag.

He enrolled at the Near East School of Theology, where he was awarded a diploma in theology in 1947. Upon graduation, he became a teacher at the First Armenian Evangelical High School and later principal of the Armenian Evangelical School in Trad, Lebanon.

In 1954, he came to the United States; and was accepted by the Huntington College Theological Seminary, where he received a master of divinity degree (Cum Laude) in 1955.

In 1956, he was ordained by the United Church of Christ and served various Armenian and non-Armenian Evangelical churches until his retirement: Armenian Cilicia Congregational Church of Pasadena, CA; Armenian Evangelical Church of San Bernardino Valley, CA; Lanai Union Church in Hawaii, Armenian Congregational Church of Martyrs' in Worcester, MA; Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal and Armenian Evangelical Church of New York. During this period he continued to pursue new academic goals. He received a theological doctorate from Trinity Theological Seminary

and a "Certificate in Theology" from Boston Theological Institution.

Rev. Hassessian continued his service and education after his retirement serving as interim pastor of East Valley Congregational Church in North Hollywood, CA, Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church of Downey, CA and Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney, Australia. During this time he also enrolled in the doctor of ministry program at the Azusa Pacific University from where he achieved yet another doctorate degree in 2002.

The Rev. Herald Hassessian will be remembered as a fine Christian gentleman and a good Armenian minister, who lived well, laughed often, and loved much. He looked for the best in others, and gave his best in return.

Dr. Hassessian is survived by a son, Garabed, and his wife Vickie, and two grandchildren Amy and Jonathan, many nieces, nephews relatives. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the *AMAA Orphan Care Program*. G

ALICE JERNAZIAN HAIG

—by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian

Alice Jernazian Haig, the beloved wife of Dr. Pierre Vahe Haig and the loving mother of Helen, Mari and Ted Haig, joined her Lord on November 17, 2004.



Born on March 13, 1919, in Edessa (Urfa), Turkey, Alice was the first born of the late Rev. and Mrs. Ephraim and Marie Jenazian. She and her family emigrated to the United States in 1923. With great love for multiple languages and culture, Alice was fluent in English, French and Armenian. Also she was endowed with a special love for music, she learned to play the piano at an early age.

Alice started her career on the East Coast as a high school teacher of English and French in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. She then accepted a position with the Rexall Drug Company Headquarters in Boston. When the company transferred its headquarters to Los Angeles, California, Alice moved to the West Coast. Here she met her future husband Dr. Pierre Vahe Haig. Subsequently, her family

moved to the Golden State.

Mrs. Haig and her husband shared their dedication to community leadership. As they started their family and raised their children, they remained active in both Armenian and American organizations thus gaining the maximum advantages of biculturalism.

Besides being an active participant in the Armenian Evangelical churches of East and West coasts, Alice Haig was involved in the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) first as a board member and later in 1990s as its first female Vice President.

She played a decisive role in the founding of Charlotte and Elise Merdinian Armenian Evangelical School. As the chair of the board she played a pivotal role in the formative years of the school.

Alice Haig was also one of the moving forces of the Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center. She was Vice-chair of the Board in its early years. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, she also served on the Board of Trustees of Haigazian University (then College) in Beirut, Lebanon.

Alice Haig was one of those exceptional Armenian women, the likes of whom have become increasingly rare in our circles. She treated life as a thrilling challenge. She filled her niche and accomplished her task, and left the world better than she found it. She never lacked the beauty of faith, nor failed in her expression of hope. She looked for the best in others, and gave her best in return. Her life was an inspiration and her memory is a benediction. G

GARABED H. AIVAZIAN

Garabed H. Aivazian, 93, of Memphis died on Saturday, November 6, 2004. He was born in Ankara, Turkey of Armenian parents. He was a graduate of the American University of Beirut Medical School in Beirut, Lebanon. Dr. Aivazian received a Rockefeller Fellowship in Psychiatry in 1947 and spent one year at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. He returned to Beirut where he served as a Psychiatrist at the *Asfuriyeh* Hospital from 1948-1954.

In 1954, he accepted a permanent position at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine and was promoted to Professor in 1962. He served as Director of the Residency training program in Psychiatry and as a Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Tennessee

OBITUARIES

from 1964-1974, as Chief of Psychiatric Services of the City of Memphis Hospitals from 1963-1974.

Dr. Aivazian was a consultant for the Memphis Veterans Hospital from 1979-1989. He then opened a private practice. Among his many honors are numerous publications in his name; American Psychiatric Association Fellow; Past President of the Tennessee District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association.

He leaves his wife of 65 years, Emma Aivazian; two daughters, Suzanne Cohan and Lillian (Ron) Eades; four grandchildren, Sara Cohan, Abigail Sanders Cohan, Matthew Eades, and Emily Eades Johnson; and one great-grandchild, Eliza Grace Sanders. Dr. Aivazian was a member of Second Presbyterian Church.

The family requests that memorial donations be sent to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Dr. and Mrs. Garo Aivazian Endowment Fund, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, New Jersey 07652.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004 at Memorial Park Funeral Home. G

PUZANT GULESSERIAN

Puzant Gulesserian was born in Adana in 1908 to Dikran Gulesserian and Verkinia Nooskajian. The Gulesserian family was blessed with four more children, Yulia, Moorad, Eliz and Levon. Moorad and Eliz lost their lives at a very young age during the deportations of the Armenians from Cilicia.

The Adana massacres happened when Puzant was 9 months old. It was fortunate that the Gulesserian family's home was in the Greek section, and when the mob attacked that quarter three times, the Greek neighbors hid them, and they were miraculously saved. However, Dikran Gulesserian's store was wrecked.

In 1915, during the Armenian genocide, when the Armenians were being deported from the towns and villages of Cilicia, The Gulesserian family and their neighbors decided to go in the direction of Aleppo. Dikran sold his store to the governor of Adana, and

with the money he bought three horses and loaded them with food and clothing. However, the Turkish government officers confiscated their horses saying that instead they would give them passage to Aleppo on a train. That same night they arrived in Aleppo.

The government of Aleppo gave the Gulesserians permission to reside in the city provided they would clean the garbage in the streets. A few months later, they were ordered to buy two more carts and haul the bodies lying in the streets to a cemetery. In the meantime young persons like Dikran were being rounded up and sent to Deir Zor. Dikran went into hiding, and Puzant, at the age of 12, took charge of the removal of garbage and dead bodies from the streets. He did this for 3 1/2 years.

When the French armies started occupying the towns of Cilicia, Dikran decided that they should return to Adana. He opened his store there and started working. Business was flourishing, but France decided to evacuate Cilicia. The Gulesserian family was able to board a French ship and disembark in Lebanon.

Puzant started his formal education in October 1922 at the Soorp Nishan elementary school in Beirut, and he continued his studies at the American University. After receiving his certificate from the University, he joined his father to help him in his store.

Puzant was married in 1935 to Angel, the daughter of Rev. & Mrs. Yenovk Hadidian. They had four children, Hrair, Hilda, Ike and Sam.

Puzant accepted responsibilities with great willingness. He was a member of the Church Council, Treasurer of the Church, and he became the publisher of the *Chanasser* and *Badanegan Artsakank* periodicals. With a group of Christian Endeavor members he founded the KCHAG summer camp in the mountains of Lebanon. For a number of years he served as the representative of the Armenian Evangelical Community in the United Board of the Azounieh hospital.

When he and his wife moved to the United States, he wanted to see the continuation of the projects that he believed in, and he made an endowment to the Armenian Missionary Association for funding projects, such as the publication of Christian literature.

Puzant Gulesserian's life is an example of devotion and service to Christ and the Church. On October 11, 2004 the Heavenly Father has called him home as a good and faithful servant. G

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News.

- * **Aivazian, Garabed**
Memphis, TN
- * **Avedisian, Armenouhi**
Watertown, MA
- * **Babcock, Stanley**
W. Roxbury, MA
- * **Baldadian, Flora**
FL
- * **Bedrosian, Elizabeth**
- * **Chalabian, Arshalous**
Huntington Beach, CA
- Haig, Alice**
Dana Point, CA
- * **Hassessian, Herald**
Pasadena, CA
- * **Khachigian, Elizabeth**
Visalia, CA
- Khatchikian, Lydia**
Montreal, Canada
- Klijian, Barkev**
San Francisco, CA
- * **Markarian, Varkis**
Cranston, RI
- Messerlian, Barkev**
Beirut, Lebanon
- * **Motoian, Peter**
RI
- * **Moosholian, John**
Cranston, RI
- * **Movsesian, Arthur**
Forest Hills, NY
- * **Reed, Virginia**
Hatboro, PA
- * **Salibian, Ara**
Thousands Oaks, CA
- * **Soghanyemezian, Onnig**
Cranston, RI

* Memorials were designated for AMAA

Armenian Children's Milk Fund

15 Years of Caring for Armenia's Most Vulnerable

Since 1989, the Armenian Children's Milk Fund's (ACMF) sustaining nutritional program has given thousands of Armenian children a healthy start in life. ACMF's accomplishments are made possible by the hard work of its volunteers, and by the generous support of its donors. ACMF works with local health officials in Armenia and Karabagh to identify needy families, and distributes *Isomil* infant formula to eligible children in six cities in the region. Every month, ACMF feeds approximately 600 children who would otherwise not receive proper nutrition. The Armenian Children's Milk Fund is making a difference. But we need your help to continue. Please use the form below to send your donation to this worthy cause. Thank you for making a difference!



Milena, born on October 6, 2003 in Yerevan



I would like to help the Armenian Children's Milk Fund to continue its nutritional program.

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____.

Name _____

Address _____

(Please make your tax-deductible checks payable to AMAA, earmarked for ACMF,
and mail to 31 W. Century Rd. Paramus, NJ 07652)

Armenian Missionary Association of America

31 West Century Road
Paramus, NJ 07652

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Paramus, NJ
Permit No. 55